

VZCZCXRO4898
OO RUEHFK RUEHKS RUEHNAG RUEHNH
DE RUEHKO #0530 0690826
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 100826Z MAR 09
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1347
INFO RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE 3072
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 2367
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE 2254
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE 1093
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE 1141
RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA IMMEDIATE 2850
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA IMMEDIATE 0639
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA IMMEDIATE 5196
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE IMMEDIATE 6641
RUEHKS/AMCONSUL SAPPORO IMMEDIATE 3399
RHMFIUU/FBI WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUCPDC/NOAA NMFS WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS TOKYO 000530

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

STATE FOR EAP/J AND OES/OA - MHAYES/LPHELPS
USDOC FOR NOAA/NMFS - CMCCARTY AND RWULFF
FBI FOR COUNTERTERRORISM DIVISION ATTN: DOMESTIC TERRORISM
OPERATIONS UNIT (DTOU)

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [SENV](#) [EFIS](#) [IWC](#) [JA](#)
SUBJECT: WHALING:GOJ REPORTS SEA SHEPHERD TO IMO

REF: A. TOKYO 322
[1](#)B. STATE 20826

[1](#)1. (SBU) EST Unit Chief and Senior Environmental Affairs LES called on Fisheries Agency of Japan Far Seas Fisheries Division Assistant Director Shigeki Takaya March 9 to inform him of CEQ Chair Sutley's March 6 statement regarding the USG position on whaling, and of USG plans to demarche the Government of the Netherlands on the actions of the protest ship MV Steve Irwin (ref B). Takaya said he appreciated the information and hoped for progress in Rome at the International Whaling Commission intersessional meeting March 9-11. Regarding the MV Steve Irwin and the protest activities of the NGO Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, he said the GOJ appreciated USG efforts and looked forward to continued USG action as requested in ref A.

[1](#)2. (SBU) Takaya confirmed press reports that the GOJ had informed the International Maritime Organization that members of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society had violated the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (SUA Convention) during their protest of Japan's whaling fleet in the Southern Ocean in early 2007. Takaya said the GOJ reported the 2007 incidents to the IMO at this time because it had identified the three suspects by name, as required by the Convention. He added that the GOJ still is investigating the incidents that took place during the 2008 and 2009 whaling seasons, and is not ready to identify suspects in those cases.
ZUMWALT